

Message Text

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22

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /023 W

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R 120705Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO COMIDEASTFOR

USS SEMMES

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4325

CNO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ABU DHABI 1269

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS : OCLT

SUBJECT : VISIT OF USS SEMMES

1. USS SEMMES OFFICIAL VISIT TO ABU DHABI WAS OUTSTANDING SUCCESS FROM TIME GANGWAY ON PIER AT 0905 MAY 8 UNTIL 0800 MAY 10, 1976 WHEN SEMMES UNDERWAY WITH EIGHT ADDF OJT PERSONNEL.

2. ADDF HOST FOR VISIT WAS H.H. SHAIKH SULTAN BIN ZAYED AL-NAHAYAN WHO RECEIVED AND RETURNED CALL BY CDR WILLIAMSON, AND DEVIATING FROM PROTOCOL ROUTINE SPENT ONE AND ONE-HALF HOURS ON BOARD THE SEMMES. SHAIKH SULTAN APPEARED TO EXHIBIT A GENUINE AND ENTHUSIASTIC INTEREST IN THE SEMMES MISSION AND EQUIPMENT.

3. ACTIVITIES: (A) INCLUDED DAILY TOURS FOR FOUR OFFICERS AND 80 ENLISTED MEN TO AL-AIN NEAR BURAMI OASIS WITH LUNCHEON AT AL-AIN HILTON HOSTED BY ADDF. (B) A LUNCHEON HOSTED BY ADDF AT THE ABU DHABI HILTON IN HONOR OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER AND OFFICERS OF THE SEMMES WAS ATTENDED BY APPROXIMATELY 75 PERSONS. LT. COL. SAIF MUBARAK REPRESENTED SHAIKH SULTAN. (C) A COCKTAIL RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE AMBASSADOR AT THE RESIDENCE TO INTRODUCE THE COMMANDING OFFICER AND OFFICERS OF THE SEMMES TO THE YOUNGER LEADERS OF THE U.S. COMMUNITY WAS ATTENDED BY 40 PERSONS. (D) A PICNIC SUPPER HOSTED BY THE U.S. COMMUNITY IN HONOR OF THE ENLISTED MEN AND OFFICERS OF THE SEMMES WAS ATTENDED BY 300 PERSONS. (E) A LUNCHEON ON BOARD THE SEMMES HOSTED BY THE
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COMMANDING OFFICER WAS WELL ATTENDED, WITH ACTING ADDF COS SAIF

MUBARAK, AND DIRECTOR OF PORTS AND AIRPORTS, ALI BIN KHALFAN AL-DHAHIRI, RANKING GUESTS. (F) A BUFFET SUPPER HOSTED BY THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE SEA FORCE, ADDF, CAPTAIN MOHAMMED NABIL MADWAR ENDED THE ROUNDS OF OFFICIAL RECEPTIONS.

4. SPORTS EVENTS INCLUDED: (A) SOCCER MATCH BETWEEN THE SEMMES AND ADDF NAVAL FORCE (WHILE BRILLIANTLY PLAYED BY THE SEMMES) ENDED IN A SCORE OF 6 TO 1, FAVOR OF ADDF. (B) A FAST-MOVING BASKETBALL GAME BETWEEN THE SEMMES AND ADDF OVERCAME THE SOCCER LOSS WITH A FINAL SCORE OF 46-6. (C) SOFTBALL GAME (PLAYED ON TWO CONSECUTIVE DAYS) IN WHICH THE U.S. COMMUNITY CHALLENGED THE SEMMES ONLY PROVED THAT QUOTE YOUTH AND NOT RANK DOTH HAVE ITS PRIVILEGES END QUOTE ENDED WITH A FINAL SCORE ON BOTH DAYS OF SEMMES 13, U.S. COMMUNITY 6.

5. AN ESTIMATED 600 PERSONS INCLUDING U.S., BRITISH AND UAE SCHOOL CHILDREN TOURED THE SHIP.

6. TV COVERAGE INCLUDED H.H. SHAIKH SULTAN ARRIVING AT THE SHIP, THE TOUR OF THE SHIP AND HIS DEPARTURE.

7. COMMENT: BASED ON THE FOREGOING, AND A STATEMENT BY THE LIAISON OFFICER, MAJOR HAMILTON MIKEL, QUOTE THIS THE FIRST OF MANY SHIP VISITS THAT WENT OFF WITHOUT ANY SNAFU'S END QUOTE. THE OUTSTANDING CONDUCT AND NATURAL WARM HOSPITALITY OF THE OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE SEMMES ALL ADD UP TO A 4.0 RATING MADE NOT ONLY BY THE U.S. COMMUNITY BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY BY ADDF AND THE UAE. OUR SINCERE THANKS AND APPRECIATION FOR A JOB WELL DONE.
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